Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the title to read as follows:

GENERATION OF SYNCHRONOUS TRANSPORT SIGNAL DATA USED FOR NETWORK PROTECTION OPERATION

At page 1, line 7, please add the following new paragraphs:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a Continuation of Patent Application No. 09/343,122, entitled "GENERATION OF SYNCHRONOUS TRANSPORT SIGNAL DATA USED FOR NETWORK PROTECTION OPERATION", filed June 29, 1999, and having Keith Eric Neuendorff and Phillippe J. Daniel as inventors. This application is assigned to Cisco Technology, Inc., the assignee of the present invention, and is hereby incorporated by reference, in its entirety and for all purposes.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

The present application contains a microfiche Appendix A. The total number of microfiche in Appendix A is [[_____]] 3 sheets. The total number of frames in Appendix A is [[_____]] 258.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

In TCC card 210.3, a circuit 324 transfers DCC data between East and West optical interface cards 210.2, 210.5 on the one hand, and a DCC processor (DCCP) 330 on the other hand. DCCP ~~340~~ 330 transfers the DCC data between circuit 324 and a TCC processor (TCCP) 340. TCCP 340 is connected to non-volatile memory 310 (a flash memory in some embodiments) and a volatile random access memory 350.

Please replace the "Abstract of the Disclosure" paragraph beginning on page 70, lines 8 with the following amended paragraph:

Each node (130) of a SONET bidirectional line switch ring (BLSR) (120) generates a squelch table. Squelch table generation does not require a separate computer connected to the node. Each node also generates a payload table indicating a type of ~~an~~ a synchronous transport signals (STS) on each link (140) in the ring. The payload table allows each node to quickly determine the STS type on the protection channels when a ring switch occurs.